GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:154
ANSWERED ON:23.07.2001
FORMATION OF JOINT TELECOM COMPANY
BABUBHAI KHIMABHAI KATARA;CHANDRESH PATEL KORDIA

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Birla, Tata, AT&T (Batata) and the BPL have recently announced to form a joint telecom company;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the percentage of shares of each company therein; and

(d) the areas of operation to be identified for the purpose?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR)

(a) As per information provided by some of the concerned companies, A.V.Birla Group, the Tata Group, AT&T Wireless Group and BPL Group have announced their intention to form a joint venture company subject to obtaining all the necessary approvals.However, these companies have not yet approached Licensing Authority for Telecom Services (Department of Telecommunications) for approval of such a Joint Venture Company.

(b) to (d): Does not arise in view of (a) above.